

**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

SECTION	TRAVEL	SUB-SECTION	19.20.30
SUB-SECTION	TAXABLE MEALS	ISSUED – 2005 REVISED - 2017	

TAXABLE MEALS

The IRS has ruled that any reimbursement of meal expenses for travel not including an overnight stay is considered nondeductible compensation and therefore taxable to the traveler. Agencies have the discretion to determine if taxable meals reimbursements will be paid. Certain classes of travelers within an agency may be paid taxable meals, while others are not.

All taxable meals are handled through SPAHRS. Prior to the processing of these meals, tax records must be entered into SPAHRS for the traveler. This is very important for travelers who do not receive other payments from SPAHRS, such as Board members. Taxable meals are entered directly on the SPAHRS Travel Voucher screen or are recorded on a time sheet using the TXMEA earnings code for in-state travel and TXOML for out-of-state travel. These payments are reported on the traveler's W-2 as wages.

Refer to the following link for reimbursement rates for meals:

<http://www.dfa.ms.gov/dfa-offices/purchasing-travel-and-fleet-management/purchasing-and-travel/meal-reimbursement/>